



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 19, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent *Carol*

SUBJECT: Changes to Shared Time Legislation

Recent legislation (P.A. 130 of 2012) amended Section 166b of the State School Aid Act, with respect to the instruction of nonpublic students by public schools at the nonpublic site.

In the event where the resident district does not agree to provide instruction to nonpublic students at the nonpublic site when requested, the nonpublic school can then request instruction from another public district or PSA located within the same intermediate school district (ISD) as the nonpublic school. In addition, the nonpublic school can request instruction from a district located in an ISD contiguous to that resident ISD if the resident district refused to provide the requested instruction at the nonpublic site.

The new language in section 166b also clarifies that a nonpublic school is not required to submit more than 1 request for instruction to the district in which the nonpublic school is located, and does not require the nonpublic school to submit an additional request to the local district before having additional instruction provided by an eligible other district. In addition, the amendment eliminates the requirement that the request from the nonpublic be for a specific fiscal year.

Consistent with prior versions of the section, eligibility requirements must be met in order to count nonpublic students in membership for State aid funding. Those requirements include that the nonpublic school is registered with the Department of Education and meets all State reporting requirements for nonpublic schools; that instruction is scheduled to occur during the regular school day; that the instruction is provided directly by an employee of the public district or public school academy (PSA); that the curriculum is also available to full-time pupils at the public district or PSA during the regular school day; and that the curriculum offering is restricted to nonessential elective courses for pupils in grades 1 to 12.

Department guidelines for conducting a shared time program under this section can be found in the Pupil Accounting Manual (PAM) under section 5E – Part-time Nonpublic and Homeschooled Pupils (Shared Time Programs), which is accessible through the following link:
http://mi.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-6530_6605-22360--,00.html

If you have questions regarding this legislative change, please contact Brian Ciloski at CiloskiB@michigan.gov or 517-373-3352.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324